

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
HIALEAH, FLORIDA, URGING THE
FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT
HOUSE BILL 1291 TO INCREASE
AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND
HEALTHCARE COVERAGE FOR AUTISM
SPECTRUM DISORDER; AND URGING
MUNICIPALITIES IN MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY TO JOIN IN SUPPORT OF THIS
BILL.

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2008 Representative Porth and twelve (12) co-sponsors filed House Bill 1291 (hereinafter referred to as "HB1291"), in an effort to raise awareness and provide for better treatment and healthcare for individuals with autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder generally includes autistic disorder, Asperger's syndrome, and pervasive developmental disorders not otherwise specified; and

WHEREAS, studies show that between one and five out of every thousand babies born will have some variation of autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, the number of diagnosed cases of autism spectrum disorder have been steadily increasing since the late 1990s; and

WHEREAS, with the increased number of diagnosed incidents of autism spectrum disorder, there is a greater need for healthcare coverage, as well as education and treatment, particularly among health care providers and in early-childhood academic environments; and

WHEREAS, HB1291 will provide for health insurance coverage for additional screening for autism spectrum disorder and requires the Commissioner on Education to develop recommendations to raise the levels of autism awareness; and

WHEREAS, HB1291 will expressly require institutions of higher education offering coursework for educator certification to include autism spectrum disorder awareness as part of the curriculum; and


WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council deems it to be in the best interests of the citizens and residents of the City to support HB1291, and further urges the Florida Legislature to adopt the same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing facts and recitations contained in the preamble of this resolution are hereby adopted and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah, Florida in recognition of the great need for autism awareness and treatment, urges the Florida Legislature to adopt House Bill 1291.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of April, 2008.



Esteban Bovo
Council President

Attest:



Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

Approved on the 10 day of April, 2008.



Mayor Julio Robaina

Approved as to legal sufficiency and form:



William M. Grodnick, City Attorney

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Resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote with Councilmembers Bovo, Caragol, Casals-Muñoz, Garcia-Martinez, Gonzalez, Hernandez, and Yedra voting "Yes".